

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 21, 2014

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 122

Introduced by Assembly Member Beth Gaines

March 17, 2014

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 122—Relative to Bone Marrow Donation Awareness Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 122, as amended, Beth Gaines. Bone Marrow Donation Awareness Month.

This measure would designate the month of May 2014 as Bone Marrow Donation Awareness Month.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Since 1987, when Congress authorized the
2 establishment of a national registry of volunteer bone marrow
3 donors, the National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP), *now*
4 *publicly known as Be The Match*, has facilitated more than ~~40,000~~
5 *61,000* marrow and *umbilical* cord blood transplants; and
6 WHEREAS, ~~The NMDP~~ *Be The Match* states that the number
7 of transplants facilitated through the national registry *Be The Match*
8 *Registry* is “only a fraction of the people who can benefit”; and
9 WHEREAS, One of the leading hurdles cited in a report by the
10 Government Accountability Office is locating a suitably matched,
11 unrelated ~~donor~~; *donor*, a process that is often difficult,
12 time-consuming, and costly; and
13 WHEREAS, ~~Patients will deteriorate, develop major~~
14 ~~complications, or die while awaiting potential donors; and~~

1 WHEREAS, The most prevalent problem with respect to bone
2 marrow donation is the ~~continued disparity in the number of need~~
3 ~~for~~ racially and ethnically diverse donors *because of complex tissue*
4 *types*. Of the more than ~~eight~~ 11 million potential donors on the
5 registry, ~~only 26~~ *United States' Be The Match Registry*, 41 percent
6 are donors from racially and ethnically diverse backgrounds; and

7 WHEREAS, There is a need to enhance the understanding of
8 the importance of bone marrow donation, and to encourage
9 Californians to participate in bone marrow donation drives; and

10 ~~WHEREAS, The NMDP operates the Be The Match Registry,~~
11 *Be The Match operates* the world's largest and most diverse
12 registry of potential bone marrow donors; and

13 WHEREAS, There is a need to support programs that reduce
14 search time for patients and fully type donors whose tissue
15 compatibility types are less common; and

16 WHEREAS, The bone marrow registration process is simple.
17 It only takes a few minutes and requires a cheek swab; now,
18 therefore, be it

19 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
20 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature designates May 2014 as
21 Bone Marrow Donation Awareness Month; and be it further

22 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
23 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.